

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 PM-09 DODE-00 PA-03 PRS-01

USIA-12 SS-14 NSC-10 OMB-01 T-03 CIAE-00 INR-09

NSAE-00 RSC-01 IGA-02 RSR-01 /112 W
----- 052608

R 141700 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3468

COMICEDEFOR

CINCLANT

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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DEPARTMENT PASS ALSO TO AIDAC

EN. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS IC

SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL VOLCANO EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE REQUESTED
FROM UNITED STATES

1. GOI HAS OFFICIALLY ASKED EMBASSY FOR FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT TO
HELP STEM LAVA FLOW, WHICH IS STILL MOVING TOWARD HARBOR:

A. A SHIP EASY TO MANEUVER WITH HIGH PRESSURE WATERGUNS
CAPABLE OF THROWING WATERJETS UP
TO 300 FEET FROM CENTER OF SHIP.
PUMP CAPACITY APPROXIMATELY 4000 GALLONS PER MINUTE.

B. TWO WATER PIPES EACH 2,100 FEET LONG WITH 28 BRANCH PIPES
100 FEET LONG EACH. DIAMETER OF BRANCH PIPES 2-1/2 INCH EACH
FITTED WITH 3/4 INCH NOZZLE. PRESSURE AT OUTLETS 50 POUNDS PER
SQUARE INCH. ELEVATION OF NOZZLE WILL BE APPROXIMATELY 100
FEET ABOVE PUMP LEVEL. CAPACITY OF PUMPS REQUIRED IS 5000 GALLONS
PER MINUTE EACH PIPE. PIPES MUST WITHSTAND TEMPERATURE OF AT
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LEAST 200 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT.

2. GOI REPRESENTATIVE STATED EFFORTS FIRST WERE MADE TO OBTAIN EQUIPMENT FROM SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES ON RENTAL BASIS TO BE CHARGED OFF AGAINST MONETARY CONTRIBUTION FROM THOSE COUNTRIES BUT EQUIPMENT NOT AVAILABLE. GOI WAS THEREFORE TURNING TO USG FOR ASSISTANCE. INFERENCE OF REQUEST WAS THAT USG MIGHT WANT TO LOAN THIS EQUIPMENT WITHOUT CHARGE, BUT IF THIS NOT POSSIBLE THEN WOULD RENT FROM USG, HOPEFULLY AT CONCESSIONAL RATES.

3. LISTED EQUIPMENT NOT AVAILABLE IN IDF INVENTORY NOR IS IT KNOWN HERE WHETHER AVAILABLE AT ANY OTHER USG MILITARY INSTALLATION IN EUROPE.

4. COMMENT. THERE IS NO QUESTION AT ALL USG DISASTER RELIEF AID TO DATE HAS HAD SALUTARY EFFECT ON OUR MAJOR FOREIGN POLICY OBJECTIVE OF IDF RETENTION. A GREAT MOUNTAIN OF LAVA IS SLOWLY MOVING TOWARD HARBOR. SPRAYED WATER ON MOUND SEEMS TO BE EFFECTIVE IN SLOWING MOVEMENT. FEELING HERE IS THAT ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT MAY SLOW DOWN MOVEMENT EVEN MORE AND MAY EVEN ALTER COURSE, THEREBY SAVING HARBOR. SAVING THE HARBOR WILL HAVE A MORE LASTING FAVORABLE EFFECT ON ECONOMY OF ICELAND AND IDF IMAGE THAN SAVING THE TOWN. SO FAR ONLY USG HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN THE DIRECT DEFENSE OF THE HARBOR AGAINST THE LAVA. IF WE FAIL TO FOLLOW THROUGH AND THE HARBOR CLOSES, PUBLIC OPINION MAY WELL BE TURNED AGAINST THE IDF IF IT BECAME KNOWN THAT FAILED TO RESPOND TO REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS DEPT GIVE FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION TO GOI'S REQUEST. IRVING

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TAGS: MASS, IC
To: CINCLANT
COMICEDEFOR
COPENHAGEN
EUR
OSLO
SECSTATE WASHDC
STOCKHOLM

Type: TE

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